

**DUCHESNE AND STRAWBERRY RIVERS WATER ASSOCIATION**  
**ANNUAL WATER USERS & ANNUAL MEETING WITH STATE**  
**ENGINEER**

**January 31, 2003**

**2:00 p.m.**

Art Taylor opened the meeting.  
The following attended:

| NAME             | REPRESENTING                   |
|------------------|--------------------------------|
| Keith Hooper     | CUWCD                          |
| John Swasey      | Water Commissioner             |
| Bob Leake        | Division of Water Rights       |
| Art Taylor       | Duchesne/Strawberry            |
| Lee Sim          | Division of Water Rights       |
| John Larsen      | Division of Water Rights       |
| Maurice Harvey   | UBIC                           |
| Andrew Dutson    | Division of Water Rights       |
| Craig Flitton    | Randlett                       |
| Lee Moon         | Rocky Point Ditch              |
| Tom Golinski     | Uintah Development             |
| Shirley Weathers | Fruitland                      |
| Lynn Hansen      | BIA                            |
| Jay Abbott       | Rocky Point & Meacham          |
| Craig Thomas     | Hicken Ditch Company           |
| Bill Walsh       | Fruitland                      |
| Bill Young       | Orchard Mesa Canal             |
| Weldon Brown     | Shanks Ditch                   |
| Linda Ivie       | CUWCD                          |
| Jerry Wilson     | Rocky Point Canal              |
| Clinton Moon     | Rocky Point Canal              |
| Reed Clayburn    | Duchesne Irrigation            |
| Dale Rasmussen   | UBIC                           |
| Roger Hicken     | Grey Mountain Canal            |
| Randy Crozier    | DCWCD                          |
| Leo L. Brady     | Pioneer Canal Company          |
| Jonathan Clegg   | Provo River Water Users        |
| Brad Allred      | UBIC                           |
| Ed Bench         | Rocky Point Ditch              |
| Bill Peatross    | CUWCD                          |
| Gary Robb        | Knight Canal                   |
| Kalvin Killian   | CUWCD                          |
| Alton N. Moon    | Wolf Creek                     |
| Shane Rowley     | Wagstaff/Brown/Broadhead/Jones |

## **Minutes**

The minutes were read of the 2002 meeting.

MOTION: Maurice Harvey moved the minutes be approved as read. Roger Hicken seconded the motion. Motion carried.

## **Expenditures**

Lee Sim reviewed the Financial Statement, Expenditures for 2002 and delinquent water assessments (pages 12-13 Commissioner Report). Lee indicated that delinquent warning letters will be sent June 1<sup>st</sup> and if not paid the head gate will be locked.

Art Taylor pointed out that the largest overage was in the insurance premiums and that with a dry water year we can expect extra travel expenses.

MOTION: Clinton Moon moved to approve the financial report. Jerry Wilson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

## **Commissioner Report**

Last year was the driest year we have ever had on the river. We got by because we had the Central Utah Project and the delivery of project water. The other thing that helped was the fish flows released below the project. Without those we would have had to cut lower than a priority date of 1906. There was only one more cut and then the Indian water rights would have got all the water.

Upper Stillwater Inflow was 51,447 AF in 2002 and in a good year Upper Stillwater should produce up to 150,000 AF. Yesterday's Snotel average on the Duchesne River was 62%.

Sterling Reese asked John if "so and so" got water. John said that the Currant Creek and the Strawberry River are not regulated, so it is their own fault if they did not get water. Sterling said that many people put in for drought relief and he does not think that they are eligible if they are on the Duchesne River.

John compared water years 1998 and 2002. He also referred to page 25 of his report of the how much water the main ditches on the system received.

John showed flow meters and data collection equipment used in his job as the water commissioner. The web site for the Duchesne river is [www.duchesneriver.org](http://www.duchesneriver.org) for current information.

The river continues to have ditches without measuring devices. John took a class on designing ramp flumes along with other classes in Denver, Colorado. He learned to measure and estimate flows. There was Grant from BOR to send John to these classes. John recommends that ditch riders would benefit from these classes. Long throated or ramp flumes are what is being recommended, not parshall flumes.

Recently another water education class in Roosevelt was well attended. John recommends that officers of canal companies go to the water conference in Vernal, February 4 & 5. The first twenty-five ditch company officers to sign up in Gayle McKeachnie's February 4<sup>th</sup> session at the conference will be free.

MOTION: Alton Moon moved that the Commissioner's Report be accepted. Craig Thomas seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **Commissioners Review**

John addressed the loss of water on Gray Mountain canal. CUWCD gave project water to UBIC up to 15%. The Canal is in bad shape and has the most seepage from Joe Sheppard's to the head.

John said that he could not keep water in the river at Rocky Point's heading on a dry year without "Project Water" being released from Hades and Upper Stillwater. The board needs to meet with Rich Tullis before irrigation season.

Art Taylor commends John Swasey on a good job.

### **Budget.**

**Balance of Distribution Trust Funds December 31, 2002** \$30,900.00

|   |                    |
|---|--------------------|
| Estimated Receipts for 2003             | \$74,792.00        |
| Estimated Penalties and Interest Earned | 1,000.00           |
| <b>Total Receipts</b>                   | <b>\$75,792.00</b> |

### **Budget of Expenditures for 2003**

| Code No. | Description                 | Budgeted           |
|----------|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| -----    | -----                       | -----              |
| 1        | Salary                      | \$40,000.00        |
| 2        | Social Security             | 3,060.00           |
| 3        | Retirement                  | 5,937.00           |
| 4        | Travel Expense              | 7,000.00           |
| 11       | Insurance Premiums          | 8,250.00           |
| 12       | Office Expense              | 600.00             |
| 14       | Telephone Expense           | 1,500.00           |
| 15       | Committee Expense           | 500.00             |
| 16       | Annual Report               | 325.00             |
| 17       | Equipment Expense           | 5,000.00           |
| 18       | Miscellaneous Expense       | 200.00             |
|          | Sub total                   | \$53,382.00        |
|          | State Engineer's Assessment | 3,003.00           |
|          | <b>Total Expenditures</b>   | <b>\$75,375.00</b> |

**Estimated Balance of Distribution Trust Funds December 31, 2003** \$31,317.00

Art reported on the discussion of the board when setting the Budget. The board increased John Swasey's salary to \$40,000.00 because the river commissioner's position is not a part-time position any more. Some other river systems assess from 47 cents to 67 cents per acre-foot diverted. The proposed budget remains the same other than the increase in John's salary with accompanying Social Security increase and retirement costs and the new State Engineer's assessment.

Provo River, Central Utah Water Conservancy District, and Bureau of Indian Affairs combined pay 69% of the assessment.

Lee Sim reported that there was a good discussion at the board meeting. Lee stated that John prepares one of the best water delivery records in the State.

Leo Brady said that reserves have been depleted because of the dry years and only assessing 12 cents per acre-foot. Last year's assessments were raised from 10 to 12 cents in hope of building our reserve. But this increase did not accomplish the goal due to the decrease in water from the drought.

MOTION: Roger Hicken moved that the Assessment of 24 cents per acre-foot be approved. Leo L Brady seconded the motion. Motion carried.

MOTION: Lynn Hansen moved that the Budget be approved in the amount of \$75,375.00. Jerry Wilson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **Board Positions**

Directors: Term expired for Roger Hicken, Kent Peatross, and Leo L Brady.

Lower Duchesne below the confluence of the Duchesne and Strawberry nominated Roger Hicken.

MOTION: Clinton Moon moved that the rules be suspended and that Roger Hicken be put in by acclamation. Jerry Wilson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Duchesne River above the confluence nominated Leo L Brady.

MOTION: Craig Thomas moved that the rules be suspended and that Leo L. Brady be put in by acclamation. Lee Moon seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Strawberry River position open, Kent Peatross was nominated.

MOTION: Clinton Moon moved that the rules be suspended and that Kent be put in by acclamation. Roger Hicken seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **Duty Schedule**

Lee Sim said that a wording change to the duty schedule presented to the court would be from "all sources." The duty will start when the commissioner calls it. Head gates and measuring devices are required. Irrigation acreage reports are required of all water users. The order will state that Indian Canyon will be part of zone 3. They will try to get it in place by April 1. Once John cuts someone off then he goes by the duty schedule.

### **Other:**

Keith said the in the past year he was contacted more than any other year about how project is to be delivered. In order to qualify to receive project water, the land must have been classified as Class 1, 2 or 3 according to the "Definite Plan Report." It must have a water right because project water in this area is only supplemental. You must be using its share of natural flow water on the project land.

Brad Allred asked if ground could be reclassified. Keith: District would need to request that to the BOR. Leo: Always been told the user has to bear all the costs and have to hire whatever expert is needed to meet their requirements. Brad: Can a company request a survey to change project land to where the water is being used? Can canal company pay for it? Whom do you have to satisfy? What are the requirements? Keith: Contact the District. Start with Rich Tullis.

Keith said that Rich has told him that subscription agreements are on hold until Sandwash is also ready to be subscribed for.

Lee Sim announced that February 20 is the water commissioner's seminar.

Meeting adjourned.

DUCHESNE - STRAWBERRY DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM TRUST FUND

BEGINNING BALANCE January 1, 2004  $\Longrightarrow$  \$11,806.66

RECEIPTS:

|                                       |             |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|
| Regular Assessments:                  | \$87,266.40 |
| Delinquent Assessments and Penalties: | \$22,000.00 |
| Annual Interest Earned:               | \$150.00    |

TOTAL RECEIPTS  $\Longrightarrow$  \$109,416.40

EXPENDITURES

BUDGET:

|                              |             |
|------------------------------|-------------|
| Commissioner Salary          | \$45,000.00 |
| Commissioner Social Security | \$3,443.00  |
| Commissioner Retirement      | \$5,940.00  |
| Travel Expense               | \$6,500.00  |
| Insurance Premiums           | \$10,000.00 |
| State Engineer's Assessment  | \$5,524.00  |
| Office Expense               | \$600.00    |
| Telephone Expense            | \$1,000.00  |
| Committee Expense            | \$500.00    |
| Annual Report                | \$350.00    |
| Equipment Expense            | \$5,000.00  |
| Miscellaneous Expense        | \$143.00    |

TOTAL EXPENDITURES  $\Longrightarrow$  \$84,000.00

ENDING BALANCE December 31, 2004  $\Longrightarrow$  \$37,223.06